

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) An electronic key ~~having~~ comprising a key housing ~~that has~~ having a suspension eyelet in a region close to its periphery, ~~the~~ suspension eyelet having movable between a deployed use and a stowed non-use position, ~~wherein:~~

a mechanical key configured to be moved onto and out of the key housing;

~~the suspension eyelet is held by a guide arm which is~~ a member associated with the suspension eyelet and mounted inside the key housing so as to be biased for movement relative to the housing; ~~the guide arm is movable~~ such that upon insertion of the mechanical key into the key housing, a portion of the suspension eyelet is contacted by the mechanical key and is lowered into a receiving space in the key housing, ~~in which it is~~ to be inaccessible in its non-use position; and ~~the suspension eyelet is movable out~~ biased into the use position upon withdrawal of the mechanical key from the key housing for the purpose of suspending the electronic key.

11. (Currently Amended) The electronic key as claimed in claim 10, wherein the ~~guide arm of the suspension eyelet is held on the key housing by means of a rotary bearing, such that it can pivot~~ member is pivotably mounted inside the key housing.

12. (Currently Amended) The electronic key as claimed in claim 10, wherein ~~in that the guide arm of the suspension eyelet is held on the key housing such that it can slide~~ member is slidably mounted inside the key housing.

13. (Currently Amended) The electronic key as claimed in claim 10, wherein:
the key housing has a receiving shaft for ~~an associated~~ the mechanical key which can be inserted into the receiving shaft and can be completely withdrawn from the latter; ~~and~~

~~the suspension eyelet is automatically moved into the use position when the mechanical key is withdrawn from the receiving shaft.~~

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The electronic key as claimed in claim 13, ~~further comprising~~ wherein a spring is arranged on the key housing; ~~wherein said spring automatically moves~~ to bias the suspension eyelet into the use position.

16. (Currently Amended) The electronic key as claimed in claim 15, wherein, in its non-use position, the suspension eyelet is supported against a holding zone of the inserted mechanical key which is secured on the key housing ~~by means of~~ associated holding ~~means~~ structure.

17. (Previously Presented) The electronic key as claimed in claim 15, wherein, in the use position, the suspension eyelet is supported against a bearing point of the key housing under action of the spring.

18. (Previously Presented) The electronic key as claimed in claim 13, wherein:
the mechanical key is a flat key;
the suspension eyelet has a plate-like region which runs substantially parallel to a broad side of the inserted flat key in a common receiving shaft of the key housing.

19. (Currently Amended) An electronic key, comprising:
a mechanical key;
a key housing; ~~and~~ having a receptacle for storing the mechanical key
therein;

a suspension eyelet ~~by which the key housing can be supported~~ configured
to support the key housing on one of a key ring and a key hook; wherein the
~~suspension eyelet is~~ biased so as to be movable ~~between~~ to a deployed position in
which it is accessible for such a key ring or hook; and to a stowed position ~~in~~
~~which it is~~ upon contact with the mechanical key so as to be inaccessible for such
a the key ring or hook.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) An electronic key, according to claim 20, wherein
said mechanical key has a suspension structure by which the electronic key can
be suspended when the suspension eyelet is in the stowed position.

22. (Currently Amended) An electronic key, according to claim 19, wherein:

the suspension eyelet is disposed on a ~~guide arm; and the guide arm~~
~~includes a structure which is~~ member is arranged to be engageable with a
~~corresponding structure of~~ the mechanical key such that insertion of the
mechanical key into the receptacle causes movement of the ~~guide arm~~ member
against the bias of the suspension element.

23. (Currently Amended) An electronic key, according to claim 22, wherein said movement of the ~~guide arm~~ member comprises one of sliding and pivoting into the stowed position of the suspension eyelet.